Docket No: **WHIC-0007CIP1D1**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Divisional Patent Application of: Gordon W. Stretch et al
(A Division of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/200,234 Filed July 22, 2002)
Filed: Herewith
Entitled: METHODS OF OPERATING A FUEL-FIRED HEATING APPARATUS (As Amended)
Previous Group Art Unit: 3749 Previous Examiner: Lu, Jiping

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Entry of the following preliminary amendment, prior to the substantive examination of the claims therein, or the calculation of the filing fee therefor, is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.